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Message Text

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63
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

ACDA-10 IO-10 OMB-01 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00 /108 W
---------- 046699
R 101913Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2974

UNCLAS PARIS 23322

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, FR, CD
SUBJECT: MADAME CLAUSTRE INTERVIEWED

1. IN AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH RAYMOND DEPARDON OF GAMMA NEWS AGENCY' MADAME CLAUSTRE IS REPORTED SEPTEMBER 10 TO HAVE CRITICIZED FRENCH GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO SECURE HER RELEASE AFTER 16 MONTHS CAPTIVITY BY THE TOUBOU REBELS. "I WOULD NEVER HAVE THOUGHT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT COULD BE SO COWARDLY. IF THERE WAS SOMETHING AT STAKE FOR THE GOVERNMENT, LIKE AN AMBASSADOR, THEY WOULD HAVE DONE SOMETHING BUT PEOPLE LIKE MYSELF DO NOT COUNT." SHE SAID THAT IF HER HUSBAND HAD NOT HIMSEL MADE CONTACT WITH THE REBELS, NEGOTIATIONS WOULD NEVER HAVE BEGUN. SHE ACCUSED THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT OF TRYING TO WASH ITS HANDS OF THE AFFAIR AND THE CHADIAN GOVERN-MENT OF JUST WAITING FOR HER DEATH.

2. THE CLAUSTRE AFFAIR CONTINUES TO MAKE HEADLINES AND ELICIT WIDESPREAD COMMENT IN PARIS NEWSPAPERS. EDITORIALS CHIDE THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT FOR ACTING TOO LATE AND NOTE THAT IT IS NOW IN THE IMPOSSIBLE POSITION OF HAVING TO CHOOSE BETWEEN ALLOWING MADAME CLAUSTRE TO BE LEFT TO HER FATE OR PROVIDING ARMS WHICH WOULD PROBABLY RESULT IN THE DEATHS OF MANY OTHER PEOPLE.
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FRENCH INTEREST IN MAINTAINING GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE

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CHADIAN GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF THE COUNTRY'S POTENTIAL MINERAL WEALTH AND ALLEGED LIBYAN OCCUPATION OF CHADIAN TERRITORY ARE AMONG THE THEMES OF PRESS COMMENT.

3. MEANWHILE, PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR RENE JOURNIAC ARRIVED IN N'DJAMENA SEPTEMBER 9 AND REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT MALLOUM IN THIS HIS SECOND TRIP TO CHAD IN AN EFFORT TO SECURE THE CLAUSTRE RELEASE BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER 23 DEADLINE SET BY HER CAPTORS.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

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